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Hoekstra Votes against Faulty FISA Fix

Keep Congress in Session until Real FISA Reform Approved

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Rep. Pete Hoekstra, R-Mich., the top Republican on the House Intelligence Committee, voted against a bill offered by House Democrats that failed to fix the problems with the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act that are impeding the U.S. Intelligence Community's ability to protect the homeland. He issued the following statement after the vote:

"The director of national intelligence says this bill does not give the intelligence community what it needs to protect the homeland, so it is inexplicable why the House even considered it.

"This bill empowers lawyers and bureaucrats, it does not empower our intelligence professionals who need to move with speed and agility to detect and stop plots against America.

"Our nation faces a threat. Al-Qaeda is not going to recess for August, or quit in 120 days or stop for one second to consider who the attorney general is. Throughout this process, Democrats have been far more worried about the attorney general than they have about stopping the radical jihadists who have pledged to attack America.

"Intelligence is the first line of our nation's defense. Congress should not recess while our nation remains vulnerable. We can protect civil liberties and close the terrorist loophole in FISA."